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BROMSROVE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1956.

Chairman of the Council - Councillor C.H. Tomlinson.

Vice-Chairman - Councillor J.J. Hudson.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Chairman - Councillor Mrs. K.M. Field.

COUNCILLOR F. MERWICK.

COUNCILLOR H. BOYLES.

COUNCILLOR D.H.V. MEREDAY.

COUNCILLOR R. FLETCHER. O.B.E.

COUNCILLOR A.W. GRANT.

COUNCILLOR R.R. HARVEY.

COUNCILLOR J.J. HUDSON.

COUNCILLOR DR. D.C. MUNDY.

COUNCILLOR H.G. OWEN.

COUNCILLOR C.H. TOMLINSON.

COUNCILLOR L.G. WAGSTAFF.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

E.T. SHEENAN, M.D., Ch.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time).

Assistant County Medical Officer.

V. PUGH, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.D., Ch.D.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Part Time).

Assistant County Medical Officer.

H. HOLDEN, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.D.

Royal Sanitary Institute Heat and Food Certificate.

Liverpool University Heat and Food Certificate.

Chief Public Health Inspector, Heat and Food Inspector.

Shops Inspector, Petroleum Officer.

C.J. BURFORD, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.D.

Royal Sanitary Institute Heat and Food Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

H. DROOKS, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.D.

Royal Sanitary Institute Heat and Food Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

Clerks:

Miss B. Wass, - until 11.8.56. Miss P. Wallace, Miss H. Wallace, -
from 27.8.56.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BROMSGROVE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. FIELD AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting the report on the state of Public Health in the Urban District of Bromsgrove and the work carried out by the Health Department during the year 1956.

Dr. E.T. Shennan held the post of Medical Officer of Health at the time and I am sure he would wish me to express his appreciation of the work done by Mr. Holden, the Public Health Inspectors and staff of the Health Department and also the assistance and co-operation of officers and staff of other departments.

The estimated population increased by 820 to 29,800. There was also an increase of 430 in the number of inhabited houses, the total at the end of the year being 9,087.

The Birth Rate showed a small decline to 13.83 (14.74). There was also an appreciable fall in the Death Rate to 9.89 (11.59).

Among the Major Causes of Death, diseases of the heart and circulatory system continued to take a comparatively heavy toll, while there was a small, though welcome, fall in deaths from cancer and other malignant disease.

Notifications of Infectious Disease showed a considerable decrease mainly due to the very small incidence of Measles, there being only 4 cases in the year compared with 52 in 1955.

I have pleasure in reporting that in no case was it necessary for action to be taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance (Administration) Act, 1951.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Field and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

C.H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area,

Area: 9,228 acres.

Registrar General's estimate of Population mid: 1956 - 29,800

1955 - 28,980

1954 - 29,020

1953 - 28,700

1938 - 23,540

(Census 1951 - 27,924).

Number of inhabited houses at the end of: 1956 - 9,087

1955 - 8,657

1954 - 8,419

1953 - 8,201

1938 - 6,902

Rateable Value, 1st April, 1956: £303,888.

Product of Penny Rate. £645. 17s. 3d.

VITAL STATISTICS (1955 figures given in brackets)

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population showed an increase of 820 when compared with the 1955 figure.

Live Births.

		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	208	187	395 (409)
Illegitimate	...	8	5	13 (14)
Total	... ..	216	192	408 (423)

Birth Rate.

(Births per 1,000 population).

1956	1955	1938	1956 (England and Wales)
13.83.*	14.74	17.8	15.7

Illegitimacy Rate.

(Total live illegitimate births per 1,000 live births)

1956	1955	1954	1938	1956 (England and Wales)
31.86	33.1	36.80	33.5	46.0

The number of births showed a decrease of 15 over 1955. This brought the district birth-rate below the national average of 15.7

The number of illegitimate births was less by 1 than in the previous year, the illegitimate birth-rate being well below the national average of 46.0 per 1,000 total live births.

Still Births

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ...	2	7	9 (9)
Illegitimate ...	-	-	- (-)
Total ...	2	7	9 (9)

Still Birth Rate.

(Still Births per 1,000 total births)

1956	1955	1954	1938
21.58	20.83	13.61	27.9

Deaths.

M.	F.	Total
194 (186)	170 (157)	324 (323)

Death Rate.

(Deaths per 1,000 population).

1956	1955	1954	1938	1956 (England and Wales)
9.39	11.59	11.71	12.5	11.7

The Major Causes of Death by Percentage.

1. Disease of the heart and circulatory system.	52.77% (49.9%)
2. Cancer and other malignant disease.	15.43% (16.4%)
3. Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis)	12.65% (15.5%)
4. Accidents.	2.47% (5.0%)
5. Tuberculosis.	1.23% (1.6%)

The major causes of death remained in the same order as in the previous year. Accidents showed a welcome fall as follows:-

1956 - 2.47% ; 1955 - 5.0% ; 1954 - 4.3% ; 1953 - 2.9%.

Percentage distribution of Deaths.

Age at Death	%1956	%1955	%1954
0 - 1 year.	2.78%	3.10%	4.28%
1 - 14 years.	1.54%	2.17%	2.45%
15 - 44 years.	5.25%	5.88%	5.20%
45 - 64 years.	22.53%	19.50%	25.38%
65 and over.	67.90%	69.35%	62.69%

Maternal Mortality.

(Maternal deaths per 1,000 total births).

1956	1955	1954	1953	1956 (England and Wales)
4.79	Nil.	Nil.	1.17	0.46

Infant and Neonatal Mortality.

Infant Deaths.

(Deaths of Infants under 1 year).

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate.	4	5	9 (8)
Illegitimate.	-	-	- (1)
Total.	4	5	9 (9)

Neonatal Deaths.
(Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks).

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate.	3	2	5 (7)
Illegitimate.	-	-	- (-)
Total.	3	2	5 (7)

Death Rates of Infants and Neonatal Deaths:

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

	1956	1955	1938	1956 (England and Wales)
Deaths of legitimately born infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 legitimate births.	22.78	19.56	56.9	-
Deaths of illegitimately born infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 illegitimate births.	-	71.43	166.7	-
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births.	12.25	16.55	-	16.9
Deaths of all infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births.	22.06	21.28	59.8	23.8 (24.9)

The Causes of Infant Deaths.

(Neonatal figures given in brackets).

	1956	1955	1954
Congenital Malformations.	3 (1)	1 (1)	5 (3)
Prematurity.	3 (3)	5 (5)	2
Respiratory Disease.	2 (-)	1	5 (1)
Gastro-Enteritis.	- (-)	-	-
Birth Trauma.	1 (1)	1 (1)	2 (2)
Asphyxia.	- (-)	1	-
Total.	9 (5)	9 (7)	14 (6)

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BROMSGROVE URBAN DISTRICT

1956

Cause of Death.	M.	F.	Total	Mor- tality Rate.
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory.	2	2	4	0.12
2. Tuberculosis, Other.	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease.	2	1	3	0.09
4. Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-
8. Measles.	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic Diseases.	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	3	2	5	0.15
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	14	-	14	0.43
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	-	9	9	0.28
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.	-	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	13	9	22	0.67
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	2	2	4	0.12
16. Diabetes.	1	1	2	0.06
17. Vascular lesions of Nervous System.	15	28	43	1.31
18. Coronary Disease, Angina.	28	24	52	1.59
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	4	4	8	0.25
20. Other heart disease.	30	30	60	1.83
21. Other Circulatory Disease.	3	5	8	0.25
22. Influenza.	-	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.	9	12	21	0.65
24. Bronchitis.	8	11	19	0.58
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory system.	1	-	1	0.03
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	-	1	1	0.03
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	3	-	3	0.09
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	1	1	0.03
29. Hypertrophy of prostate.	3	-	3	0.09
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, Abortion.	-	2	2	0.06
31. Congenital Malformations.	1	2	3	0.09
32. Other defined and ill-defined Diseases.	8	18	26	0.79
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	1	2	0.06
34. All other accidents.	2	4	6	0.18
35. Suicide.	1	-	1	0.03
36. Homicide and operations of war.	-	1	1	0.03
Total.	154	170	324	9.89

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The County Council continued to administer the Ante-Natal, Child Welfare, School, Immunisation, Dental and Specialist clinics, where so much valuable work is done in the preservation of health of the community and the prevention of disease, especially among children. The help given at Infant Welfare Centres by voluntary workers was much appreciated by the Medical and Nursing staffs. The Health Visiting, Home Nursing and Midwifery services provided by the County Council, supported by the Home Help Service arranged by the W.V.S. and the Loan of Nursing Requisites Scheme managed by the Red Cross continued to provide useful domiciliary help.

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district:-

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Infectious Disease. | Hayley Green Isolation Hospital,
Molesowen; Little Bromwich Fever
Hospital. |
| 2. Maternity. | Bromsgrove General Hospital.
Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital,
Stourbridge.
Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital,
Stourport. |
| 3. General Medical and Surgical
Cases. | Bromsgrove General Hospital,
Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital,
Birmingham Hospitals. |
| 4. Chest Surgery. | Hill Top Hospital, Bromsgrove. |
| 5. Children's Diseases. | Children's Hospital, Birmingham. |
| 6. Venereal Disease. | General Hospital, Birmingham.
Royal Infirmary, Worcester. |
| 7. Acute Chronic Sick. | Bromsgrove General Hospital. |
| 8. Mental Illness. | Marnsley Hall, Bromsgrove. |

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory service at the Royal Infirmary, Worcester and chemical analyses of water, etc. was done by the County Laboratory, Worcester. The Health Department is greatly indebted to the Directors of these Laboratories for their help and co-operation.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors is given in the report of your Chief Public Health Inspector and a detailed statement of the sanitary state of the district is included.

The water supplied by the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company is sampled frequently, both by the Company and the Public Health Inspectors. Two specimen reports are set out below:-

(a) Sample marked Well and Borehole, "Lambert," Greenhill, Burcot Pumping Station.

<u>Physical Characters</u>	...	Clear.	
Odour	...	None.	
Deposit	...	None,	pH 7.3

Chemical Examination. (Results expressed in parts per million).

Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100°C)	...	Nil.
Solids in Solution (Dried at 180°C)	...	205
Solids in Solution. After Ignition.	...	185
Chlorine Expressed as Chloride.	...	21
Hardness. Non-Carbonate.	...	45
Hardness. Carbonate.	...	85
Hardness. Total.	...	130
Ammoniacal Nitrogen.	...	Trace.
Albuminoid Nitrogen.	...	Trace.
Nitrate Nitrogen.	...	4.9
Nitrite Nitrogen.	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (M/80 Permanganate)	...	Nil
Toxic Metals.	...	None detected.
Free CO ₂	...	24

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar

(a) In two days at 37°C.	...	1 per one ml.
(b) In three days at 22°C.	...	1 per one ml.
Presumptive coliform count.	...	Nil per 100 ml.

Opinion:- The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) H.M. LOVE.

County Analyst.

21st March, 1956.

(b) Sample marked Dorehole, "Harward," Washing Stocks Pumping Station.

<u>Physical Characters.</u>		....	Clear.
Colour	...	...	None.
Deposit	...	...	None. pH 7.7
<u>Chemical Examination.</u>		(Results expressed in parts per million)	
Solids in Suspension.	(Dried at 100°C)	...	Nil
Solids in Solution	(Dried at 180°C)	...	270
Solids in Solution	After Ignition	...	240
Chlorine expressed as Chloride		...	23
Hardness	Non-Carbonate	...	65
Hardness	Carbonate	...	125
Hardness	Total	....	190
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	Trace
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	Trace
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	7.8
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (H/80 Permanganate)		...	Nil
Toxic Metals		...	None detected
Free CO ₂		...	3

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of colonies developing upon Agar.

(a) In two days at 37°C	...	...	1 per one ml.
(b) In three days at 22°C	...	...	Nil per one ml.
Presumptive coliform count	...	...	Nil per 100 ml.

Opinion:- The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) H.H. LOVE.

County Analyst.

12th April, 1956.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse collection and disposal are supervised by the Surveyor. The collections of refuse are weekly in the town area and fortnightly in the more rural areas.

The amount of refuse collected during the year was approx. 12,609 tons.

HOUSING

The housing position at the end of 1956 was as follows:-

Number of houses in the district	...	9,087
Number of persons per house	...	3.23
Number of houses built by private enterprise	...	405
Number of houses built by Council	...	63
Number of houses under construction at end of year	...	473
Number of houses completed during 1956	...	11

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Details of the very considerable work carried out by the Health Department under this heading is given in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1956

Disease	Corrected Notifications.	Admissions to Hospital.	Deaths
Smallpox. ...	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever. ...	26	-	-
Diphtheria. ...	-	-	-
Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever. ...	2	2	-
Measles. ...	4	-	-
Whooping Cough. ...	71	2	-
Acute Pneumonia. ...	9	-	21
Puerperal Pyrexia. ...	14	14	-
Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis. ...	1	1	-
Acute Encephalitis. ...	-	-	-
Dysentery. ...	24	8	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	1	-
Erysipelas. ...	1	-	-
Malaria. ...	-	-	-
Food Poisoning. ...	3	1	-
TOTALS ...	156 (598)	25 (82)	21 (27)

Two cases of paratyphoid fever were notified, from an institution in the area in which cases of paratyphoid fever have occurred from time to time.

One case of non-paralytic poliomyelitis was notified.

There were three cases of food poisoning (66), in one of which the causative organism (Sal. Thompson) was isolated.

There was some increase in the incidence of dysentery, there being 24 cases compared with 7 in 1955. All were due to infection by the Sonne' organism and occurred in widely scattered parts of the district.

Diphtheria.

For the sixth consecutive year no case of diphtheria was notified. The last diphtheria death occurred in 1945.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children who completed a course of immunisation during the year 1956 was as follows:-

Primary Immunisation.

		1956	1955	1954
Under 5 years.	...	410	303	298
5 - 14 years.	...	34	44	47
Total.	...	444	347	345
Reinforcing injection.	...	293	192	306

The "immunisation state" of Brounsgrove children on the 31st December, 1956 was as follows:-

Age at 31/12/56 i.e. born in yr.	Under 1 1956	1 - 4 1955 - 1952	5 - 9 1951 - 1947	10 - 14 1946 - 1942	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) A. 1952 - 1956.	81 (40)	1191 (1079)	1818 (1878)	288 (231)	3378 (3278)
B. 1951 or earlier.	-	-	224 (445)	1904 (1835)	2328 (2180)
No. of births.	108 (423)	-	-	-	-

Vaccination.

Number of persons Vaccinated (or Re-Vaccinated) during 1956

Age at date of vaccina- tion.	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over	Total 1956	Total 1955	Total 1954
No. Vaccin- ated	217 (206)	9	2	4	7	236	225	205
No. Re- vaccinat- ed	-	-	2	1	10	11	22	4

There were 11 more vaccinations recorded than in the previous year. The number vaccinated in the first year of life was 217; 11 more than in the previous year. This number of infants represents 52.3% (47.8%) of the average number of births in the two years 1956 and 1954 which was 415 (431).

Tuberculosis.

The state of the Tuberculosis List at the end of 1956 was as follows:

	Male.	Female.	Total
Pulmonary ...	105	85	190 (190)
Non-Pulmonary ...	10	9	19 (21)
TOTAL ...	115	94	209 (211)

Tuberculosis Incidence and Mortality for the year 1956

Age.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - ...	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 - ...	2	2	1	1	1	-	-	-
35 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 - ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Age unknown. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5 9	4 (20)	1 2	1 (1)	2 4	2 (5)	Nil Nil	Nil (Nil)

During the year 11 (21) new cases were notified; 9 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary.

There were 4 deaths from this disease.

The total number on the list showed a decrease of 2 to 209.

The Bromsgrove Tuberculosis After-Care Committee continued to do good work in providing extra help and comforts to needy patients.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1956.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. FIELD AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you a report of the work carried out in 1956.

The Sidemoor Clearance Area was "represented" during the year, involving fifty-one houses and the Enquiry was held early in 1957.

There were no Staff changes during 1956.

My thanks are due to all the Members of the Staff for their valued assistance, and to the Officers of the Council and the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the courtesy, kindness and help I receive.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Field and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. HOLDEN.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed.	314	1	6	1637	915	-
Number inspected.	314	1	6	1637	915	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:-</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	1	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	77	-	-	62	95	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	24.5%	-	-	3.7%	10.3%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	8	-	-	-	3	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	2.8%	-	-	-	0.3%	-
<u>Cysticercosis:-</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION AND APPROXIMATE WEIGHT

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Tuberculosis.	793	-	-	54	847
Echinococci.	32	-	6	-	38
Pneumonia.	5	-	2	51	58
Pleurisy.	20	-	-	41	61
Pericarditis.	-	-	-	23	23
Distomatosis.	224	-	74	-	298
Cirrhosis.	53	-	4	21½	78½
Abscesses.	140½	-	1	8½	150
Tenuicollis Cysts.	-	-	25	-	25
Fatty Degeneration.	-	-	2	-	2
Toxaemia.	-	-	55	-	55
Acute Swine Fever.	-	-	-	196	196
Enteritis.	-	-	-	12	12
Bruising.	16	-	-	16	32
Bone Taint.	698	-	-	-	698
John's Disease.	43	-	-	-	43
TOTALS.	2024½	-	169	423	2616½

or 1 ton. 3 cwts. 40½ lbs.

* Confirmed by Ministry of Agriculture.

Other food found to be unfit for human consumption is listed below:-

Butter Beans.	-	53 lbs.
Sultanas.	-	9 lbs.
Cod Fillets.	-	16 lbs.
Chutney.	-	3 Bottles.
Cream.	-	2 Jars.
Jam.	-	3 Jars.
Meat and Fish Paste.	-	3 Jars.
Pickles.	-	2 Jars.
Sausage.	-	1 Packet.
Coffee.	-	1 Tin.

Tinned Goods

Tinned Meats.	-	96 tins.
Tinned Soups.	-	12 tins.
Tinned Vegetables.	-	117 tins.
Tinned Fish.	-	14 tins.
Tinned Fruits.	-	100 tins.
Tinned Milk and Cream.-		17 tins.

Fatstock Guarantee Scheme

The Public Health Inspectors have continued to act as Certification Officers for the Ministry of Food Fatstock Marketing Division at the four licensed Deadweight Certification Centres in the District.

651 pigs were certified during the year.

Food Premises

The total number of visits to food premises during the year, including visits to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection was 1380.

The bacteriological examination of swabs of food utensils taken at catering establishments has continued during the year.

These swabs are submitted to Dr. Henderson, the Director of the Public Health Laboratory in Worcester. This service has been given by Dr. Henderson since 1953 and a comparison with the earlier results

shows a marked improvement in the cleanliness of utensils. The agreed standard is that the colony counts should be less than 100 with no coliform bacilli present.

The number of premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 is:-

(a) Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	94
(b) Premises for the preparation or manufacture of preserved food	...	...	...	27

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Twenty licences were issued to Slaughtermen under the provisions of this Act.

Milk Supply

Twenty-two visits were made to the two dairies in the district. The number of samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination was 104, and they are classified below:-

Samples	No. taken for bacteriological examination	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
Sterilised Milk.	12	12	-
Tuberculin Tested. (Pasteurised)	27	27	-
Pasteurised.	38	38	-
Tuberculin Tested.	27	27	-
Totals.	104	104	-

The number of licences in force under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations is as follows:-

	Tuberculin Tested	Pasteurised	Sterilised
No. of Dealer's Licences.	5	6	12
No. of Supplementary Licences.	9	8	10

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF EXAMINATION OF SWABS TAKEN FROM FOOD PREMISES

COLONY COUNTS										BACTERIUM COLI			% of Total Swabs taken which are considered satisfactory*
TYPE OF UTENSIL	No. of Swabs Taken	Sterile	Under 100		Over 1,000		Over 10,000		Absent	Present			
			and less than 1,000	and less than 10,000	and less than 100,000	and less than 100,000	Non-Faecal	Faecal					
Dinner Plates.	14	1	5	5	3	-	-	13	1	-	42.86		
Tea Cups.	16	3	9	4	-	-	-	13	3	-	68.75		
Forks.	8	2	6	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	100.0		
Tea Plates.	14	4	7	2	1	-	-	13	1	-	71.43		
Spoon.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	100.0		
Glass Tumblers.	5	-	1	3	1	-	-	4	1	-	20.0		
Soup Plates.	6	1	3	2	-	-	-	6	-	-	66.67		
Sweet Plates.	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	100.0		
Coffee Cups.	4	-	3	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	50.0		
TOTALS.	70	12	36	16	6	-	-	63	7	-	64.29		

* Colony Counts of below 100 with no coliform bacteria present.

Ice Cream

Samples of Ice Cream taken for bacteriological examination numbered 79. The results, with a comparison of the 1955 figures, are set out below:-

Ice Cream - Bacteriological Results 1955 and 1956.

1955.

1956.

Grade	No. of Samples	%	Grade	No. of Samples	%
1.	97	99.0	1.	77	97.47
2.	1	1.0	2.	2	2.53
3.	-	-	3.	-	-
4.	-	-	4.	-	-
Total.	98	100.0	Total.	79	100.0

The number of premises registered is:-

Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	6
Sale only	...	...	26
Sale of Pre-packed only	...	...	62

Food and Drugs Act - Sampling

I am authorised by the County Council to act as a Sampling Officer on their behalf within the district. Sampling under this arrangement is independent of, and in addition to, sampling carried out by the County Officers.

Samples taken and submitted for analysis were as follows:-

Milk	-	Formal Samples	49
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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

An analysis of the sanitary accommodation, drainage and water supply position of houses in the district, is set out below:-

	<u>No.</u>	<u>%.</u>
No. of houses in District.	9087	100
No. of houses with Separate W.C.'s.	8031	88.38
No. of houses with Combined W.C.'s.	426	4.69
No. of houses with Privies and Earth Closets.	100	1.10
No. of houses with Pails and Chemicals.	485	5.34
No. of houses with Combined Pails.	23	0.25
No. of houses with Waste Water Closets.	22	0.24
No. of houses with Separate Mains Water Supply.	8551	94.10
No. of houses with Standpost Mains Water Supply.	450	4.95
No. of houses with Wells, Springs or Pump Water Supply.	86	0.95
No. of houses with Baths.	6632	72.98
No. of houses connected to Sewer.	7786	85.68
No. of houses connected to Cesspools.	853	9.39
No. of houses connected to Septic Tanks.	166	1.83
No. of houses with no proper drainage.	282	3.10

Tents, Vans and Sheds

Public Health Act licences are in force for 92 caravans in the district. Sixty-two of these caravans are situated on two licensed sites - the rest are on individual sites or on sites for not more than three vans.

Difficulties have been experienced from time to time on the two larger sites arising from the disposal of sink waste water, but these difficulties have been temporarily overcome.

It is necessary to carry out regular inspection in order to prevent public health nuisances arising.

Water Supply

Forty-seven samples of the town's mains water supply were submitted to the County Analyst and the Pathological Laboratory for chemical and bacteriological analysis, all of which were satisfactory.

Four samples of water from wells and springs etc. were submitted, two of which were unsatisfactory. Seven samples of water were obtained

from watercress beds.

Drainage

Below is a summary of the work done on drainage during the year:-

Houses connected to sewer (excluding new houses).	20
Houses connected to cesspools (excluding new houses).	3
No. of obstructed drains dealt with.	30
No. of tests applied to house drains.	139
No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks, urinals, etc. dealt with.	17
No. of cesspools abolished.	15
New w.c.'s provided in lieu of pails etc.	5
Baths provided.	16
No. of pails abolished.	3

Cesspool Emptying

It has not been possible to maintain a routine twice-yearly emptying service, owing principally to labour difficulties.

The number of cesspools, septic tanks, etc., where sewers are not available, is 777, and the average routine emptying service given is three times every two years. However, complaints are always dealt with to relieve nuisances.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Emptier during the year:-

No. of Cesspools Emptied.	-	1042
No. of loads from Cesspools.	-	1034
No. of Privies Emptied.	-	175
No. of Pails Emptied.	-	1307
Mileage Covered.		5793

Ashes Accommodation

During the year 1,343 dustbins were delivered to householders under the Bin Replacement Scheme.

The Scheme commenced in 1951 when it was not possible to obtain galvanised bins. These early issues of non-galvanised bins are now having to be replaced.

Disinfestation

Number of houses disinfested. - 1

The method employed for disinfestation of houses is spraying with Zaldecide/D.D.T.

Rodent Control

A full-time Operator is employed to undertake treatment on all Council and private properties, and a summary of the work carried out is set out below:-

No. of Treatments at Private Dwellings.	-	253
No. of Treatments at Business Premises.	-	45
No. of Treatments at Council Premises. (Sewage Outfall Works, Tips, Housing Estates, etc.)	-	15
No. of Brookcourse Treatments.	-	3
No. of Properties Revisited and Surveyed.	-	1657
No. of Agricultural Properties Surveyed.	-	23

The rodent problem in the district is now mainly reduced to minor scattered infestations and the maintenance treatments of sewers and the brookcourse, together with block control of centres of infestation, have kept the town district comparatively free from rats. The scattered infestations referred to are usually associated with domestic poultry or pig-keeping. The Sewage Works and refuse tips receive regular attention.

Pets Act, 1951.

Two applications were received under the above Act. Both licences were granted.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

Defects or nuisances discovered.	228
Number abated.	278
Number of notices served (Informal 105, Formal 10).	

Inspections:

Inspections carried out in the year are recorded below:-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re- Inspections</u>
Houses under Public Health Acts.	171	617
Overcrowding.	13	-
Water Supply.	77	49

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-inspections</u>
Tents, Vans and Sheds.	130	157
Schools.	2	-
Entertainment Houses.	4	1
Ships Accommodation.	104	2
Accumulations.	14	1
Animals or Birds.	3	-
Piggeries.	7	-
Drainage Inspections.	742	123
Drainage Tests.	76	2
Closets - Water.	42	22
Pails or Privies.	12	-
Cesspools.	407	29
Sewers and Street Gullies.	61	2
Milkshops and Dairies.	22	-
Ice Cream Premises.	145	-
Slaughterhouses for Meat Inspection.	710	-
Food Preparing Premises.	144	25
General Food Premises.	330	6
Licensed Premises.	15	-
Factories.	35	8
Bakehouses.	5	-
Shops Act.	3	-
Rats and Mice Acts.	104	-
Refuse Tips.	26	-
Vermineous Premises.	10	2
Infectious Diseases.	77	49
Houses Disinfected.	3	-
Housing - Section 11.	176	16
Housing - Section 25.	205	60
Housing - Other Visits.	212	5
Housing Act, 1949.	55	-
Firearm Act.	14	-
Miscellaneous Visits.	460	-
Interviews - Owners, Tradesmen, etc.	407	-
Other Visits.	4	-

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED

W.C. Pedestals renewed or repaired.	8
Obstructed Drains.	30
W.C. Flushing Cisterns.	9
Floors repaired.	20
Roofs repaired.	25
Ceiling plaster made good.	17
Wallplaster made good.	26
Walls repaired.	22
Eavespouting and downspouts repaired or renewed.	16
Chimneys repaired.	6
Staircases repaired.	7
Firegrates renewed or repaired.	8
Coppers repaired or renewed.	2
Doors repaired or renewed.	11
Windows repaired or renewed.	39
Repairs to waste pipes and gullies.	8
Hot and Cold Water Systems.	3
Repairs to drains and drainage systems.	15
Defective sinks repaired.	7
Wash-basins and baths repaired or renewed.	5
Wash-houses re-built.	3

HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during theyear:-

(i) By the local authority.	63
(ii) By other local authorities.	-
(iii) By other bodies or persons.	405

1. Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	819
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	1512
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932.	73
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	73

- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 11
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 89
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-
- Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers. 83
3. Action under statutory powers during the year:-
- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. Nil.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners. Nil.
- (b) By local authority in default of owners. Nil.
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 105
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners. 12
- (b) By local authority in default of owners. Nil.
- (c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 7
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 11
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. 2
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit. Nil.
4. Housing Act, 1949. - Improvement Grants.
- 11 houses on which grants for improvements had been approved were completed during the year.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS

PART 1. OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors):-

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	6	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	89	40	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	4	5	-	-
TOTAL.	99	47	2	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness.	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	12	12	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	12	12	-	1	-

PETROLEUM ACTS

During 1956, sixty-six licences were issued for the storage of 102,977 gallons of petroleum spirit and one licence for the storage of 36 lbs. of Carbide of Calcium.